





## ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editors of the *Sydney Morning Herald*.  
GENTLEMEN.—Your report of the Vestry Meeting, held at St. Matthew's on the 20th instant, came late, after going the round of the papers; but it would appear that it was delayed here for the purpose of ascertaining the truth of the statements therein. Short as the report is, it is greatly mis-stated. First, that the whole of the parishioners expressed themselves opposed to the order; and Mr. Beddoe, in his report of Churchwardens, on the part of the parishioners, for the last four years. Of ten parishioners present, five of them expressed themselves opposed to the order, some of whom were with considerable difficulty induced to attend the meeting for that purpose at the instigation of Mr. Beddoe and another gentleman. Others were requested to attend for the same purpose, but refused.

## A PARISHIONER.

Windsor, April 28.  
(The report referred to was furnished in the usual manner by our Windsor correspondent.)

To the Editors of the *Sydney Morning Herald*.  
GENTLEMEN.—Will you have the kindness, if possible, to inform me through your "Notice to Correspondents" whether Mr. Hamilton, the member from Cassiobury, is in opposition to Mr. McLeay, the present Speaker of the Legislative Council, in the Speakership; and if so, when. By answering this query you will oblige an old subscriber.

J. W.

Sydney, 30th April, 1846.  
(Mr. Hamilton was proposed as Speaker in opposition to Mr. McLeay, at the first meeting of the Council in 1843—E.O.)

## METEOROLOGY.

NOT GALE, BUT RUSH, APRIL, 1846.

ALTHOUGH the summer months of 1845—6, from October to March, are conspicuous in the scale of Australia's climatology, on account of the frequent violence and duration of hot winds, yet nothing, when considered with respect to the lateness of the season and the usual conditions of the month of April, has occurred of so striking a character as the furious hot gale which blew during Saturday, the 11th instant, and a part of the following night.

During the time of the full moon, which entered at an hour when, according to weather tables and weather prophets, a copious fall of rain was generally expected, this gale gradually coming on, and suddenly ceasing, attended by no thunder storm, and followed by no "brickfielder" (at least in this part of the country), is a most remarkable phenomenon, never before experienced according to the testimony of the inhabitants of Sydney, or of any other season, (and scarcely at any), and will no doubt be recorded as such in the diaries of meteorologists. To assist in its history, the succeeding observations are published; and the writer will be thankful if other persons who made corresponding memoranda will offer further contributions to the same end.

The barometrical quotations are unredacted; but those who desire it, can红色 them by consulting the tables, 30-350, to the capacity, 602; and from the first observation, the relative elevations of the stations above the sea can be easily calculated. Only so many are here published as seem to exhibit the atmospheric changes; but it is thought advisable to comprehend some in preceding and subsequent parts.

During the height of the gale in the night, the appearance of the smaller trees was such as I have seen in violent gales, and the trees were bent down towards the earth by the rushing of the wind, and remained so, for several seconds at a time, not immediately receding. Shingles were also blown from the roofs of buildings. I suppose the wind blew quite as strong as at an ordinary summer. The depression of the barometer was not uniformly produced, but by jerks or sudden impulses of furious puffs of hot air, the dryness of which was most extraordinary. Though the wind was strong, the effects of the smoke and diffused haze combined, and not of clouds. The haze acted like a veil during the day—perhaps reducing the difference between the temperature in the shade and sunlight to only 21°, whereas at 11:30 on the 13th April the difference was 27°. So dry was it the wind, the unequal expansions of ivory, brass, wood, and glass, through the instrument, was distinctly heard. The windows of the stations were closed, the thermometer tube attached to my barometer suddenly snapped asunder in

the middle, after a violent puff of hot air, at 11:50 p.m., which accounts for the blank in the column after that time. The appearance of the tube is very singular, portions of the glass being between 55° and 70°, and those longitudinally. It is not the first thermometer tube that has given way in this manner under my own observation, during the last half-year; suppose there may be conditions of that phenomenon which produces a brittleness in glass, by decomposition. It was certainly not the heat alone (83°), for this same instrument has been employed in tropical latitudes, and under a vertical sun. But an external temperature of 22° not far from midnight, in the middle of April, is certainly sufficiently remarkable, not to be the result of the difference of the day from half-past 8 A.M. to midnight less so, viz., 90°4C.

Dushires burst out in the evening of the 11th at the back of Razor Back, and along the Nepean, and the air has never since been free from the smoke. The general oppressiveness and phenomena of this hot summer have been as follows:—In the day, during the late summer, and I presume it must be winter, the air is very dry, as the evaporation and dryness were enormous. This gale does not appear to be of local character, and the calmness and unclouded sky of the subsequent morning were explicit proofs, that it was a rush of air from the westward towards a very distant quarter; and probably we shall hear of the usual April gale having occurred for this time, to the eastward, perhaps in New Zealand, and would have noticed the fact, as the 11th and October are the mean months of the year, in this part of New Holland, are always distinguished by at least one heavy gale, in some quarter or another; is this due to the effect of the change of the Indian monsoons overreaching far to the southward? Campbelltown, April 14. W. B. C.

P.S.—Since the above notes were in type, I have received a communication from a highly intelligent and wise observer, who states, that the months of Australia's climatology, on account of the frequent violence and duration of hot winds, yet nothing, when considered with respect to the lateness of the season and the usual conditions of the month of April, has occurred of so striking a character as the furious hot gale which blew during Saturday, the 11th instant, and a part of the following night.

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## MISCELLANEOUS EXTRACTS.

## THE SPIRIT OF THE AGE FAVOURABLE TO COLONISATION.

(From *Simonds's Magazine for December*.) Our corrupt nature has ever been prompt to commit wrong and injustice to attain its selfish ends, and short-sighted men seldom foresee the evil effects of their conduct disgruntled that so often religion, faith and tyranny. The wronged have no redress but violence and war; yet victory does not always attend all the aggressors; however nobly sustained, of the oppressed: physical force and skill are no juster arbitrators between nations than between individuals.

Again, how many wars have sprung from imagined injury and insult—how often have two nations each in the firm belief that her banner is haloed by justice and a righteous cause, commit wrongs to the other, with every nerve to inflict mutual misery and ruin. Michael Peace, and his sister Civilization, in toto, behold their good work undone, their progress stayed—till the pressure of taxation, and the many miseries attending war, awake the sons of contention to a sense of their folly, the blighting effects of which they and their descendants will feel in the cramped resources and iron-bound paths of future years.

No such a sequel of bitter reflections attend the conquest of colonization—the struggle between man and the uncultivated plain and unclenched forest; the settler's axe sheds not human blood, but blessings on the human race, and if the colonist grows rich, his comfort is not lessened by thoughts of unhappiness entailed on others; with honest pride he glories that his enterprise and courage have, without giving grace to man, won for himself and his fellow-men a glorious empire over the half-fallen men of industry and wealth.

Some time since, at an Agricultural Meeting, a reverend and well-known advocate of the poor claimed that the worn-out peasant of Britain shows for her veterans, warriors, stating that in his opinion the man who by his labour had enriched his country, residing in the midst of poverty and privation, deserved a place in the army, and loyalty, should look to all the world for his country for respect and support with the same confidence and the same success as he who had endured toilsome campaigns, and fared in fierce encounter the enemies of England.

The foregoing I give from recollection as the substance of the reverend gentleman's parallel, and its justice and force will, I think, strike the reflecting. May we not also assert that hostility to the slaves is the glorious but peaceful victories of past ages?—the inhabitants of the waste and wilderness, one drop—no bigger than a wren's eye!—of caudle; that Ebo himself may now and then have been guilty of a lecture, murmuring it baulily amongst the rose-leaves.

It may be so; still, be it our pride never to believe it. NEVER!

[There are some other *Caudle Papers* extant. Some of these may, possibly, be presented to the Supreme Court in our next volume. From these extracts the reader will then learn, in the words of his wretched wife, "what an aggravating man Caudle really was!" Yes, the word will, at last, know him, "as well as she did!"]

DA. BUCKLAND AND THE POTATO DISEASE.—We should not attach so much importance to the great potato movement, which we go into, and find that men who are looked up to as authorities in matters of the kind, are sending forth numberless puerilities on the subject of the threatened scarcity. Dr. Buckland has rendered himself peculiarly prominent by a paper which he read very recently to the members of the Ashmolean Society at Oxford, from which we extracted something curious in our paper one week ago. The author of this paper, who is a member of the Royal Society, does not find that men who are looked up to as authorities in matters of the kind, are sending forth numberless puerilities on the subject of the threatened scarcity. Dr. Buckland has rendered himself peculiarly prominent by a paper which he read very recently to the members of the Ashmolean Society at Oxford, from which we extracted something curious in our paper one week ago. 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